

a devious course. He was compelled to lie flat and drag himself along. Now and then it was necessary to remove with his pick an obstructing lump of coal and he knew that by doing so he might remove a support to the mass above that would bring it down and crush him. In that way he worked himself for nearly a mile till his object was reached. Hosie was exhausted and Bryden carried him where he could and dragged him over places where they could not stand, until they reached the outside.

The company, superintendents, and workmen did everything that could be done to find the bodies of those killed, but were successful in getting only eight out of the fourteen. This being about the first great calamity in the coal regions of Pennsylvania, it cast a gloom over the whole country. Andrew Bryden, now residing in Pittston, son of the superintendent, was among those entombed. There were several in his party, and when they were reached by the elder Bryden, the first question was, "Are there any others left alive in the mine?" Some one said that Dennis Farrell was at the face of his chamber so severely injured that he could not walk. Supt. Bryden went in alone and carried him out to a point where others could come to his assistance. The distance was about a quarter of a mile. After Dennis was hurt, his brother, John, went for help, and was himself caught by a fall of coal, and was never more seen, either alive or dead. While Mr. Hosie was in the darkness, he kept his watch running, and he knew how the time was passing by feeling the position of the hands. It was found afterwards that he had written on some of the pillars, with white chalk, that he was at that point at a certain time.

From the *Lackawanna Citizen* of December 12th, 1851, we take the following:

THE BRYDEN TESTIMONIAL.

On Monday evening last, a very large number of citizens assembled at Odd Fellows' Hall to witness the interesting ceremonial of the Presentation to Alexander Bryden, Esq., of a Compass and a case of Mathematical Instruments by our miners and others. The meeting



ALEXANDER BRYDEN

was organized by choosing Hon. James Archbald as president; James Clarkson, John Lee, Edward Jones, Anthony Grady, Henry Evans, Patrick Moffitt, Jr., Thomas Jones, John Kirkwood, James Hamilton, Neill Fallon, Wm. Morgan, Richard Keating, Wm. Hughes, Terrence Powderly, Patrick Kearns and Joseph Gillespie, vice presidents, and S. S. Benedict and G. M. Reynolds, secretaries. Mr. Anthony Finnerty, in behalf of the miners, delivered the presentation address, which was briefly responded to by Mr. Bryden, and more at length in his behalf by Capt. Geo. R. Love. Able addresses were made by Col. Peter Byrne, Geo. Perkins, Evan Harris, Martin Canavan, F. P. Grow and A. L. Mack, Esqs.

AN ACTIVE PLACE.

In its primitive days Carbondale was, indeed, a scene of much activity. It was a distributing point for a great section of the country, and here cash was to be had for all kinds of produce, etc. Mr. Love says he has frequently seen fifty teams come in from the Wyoming valley loaded with wheat.

E. H. Castle on a visit here in 1831 was so much impressed with the bustle manifested that the next year he walked from Syracuse with a small bundle of shirts to take up his residence here. Deacon Hodgdon was then hauling the coal by teams from the mines to the foot of No. 1 and the work of Mr. Castle who hired out to him was from the time he could see stars in the morning till the stars came out in the evening. He was financially independent at his death in July 1894. Col. Castle was one of the early Odd Fellows of this city and he never allowed his membership in Cambrian Lodge to lapse. Some time ago he presented the lodge with a handsome memorial.

In November, 1832, there arrived in the little mining village a party of Welsh miners numbering about seventy but as they were nearly all married and had brought their wives and children the settlement



CHURCHES IN CARBONDALE, 1842.

[From an Old Print.]